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THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE.

1756-1872.

HISTORY

OF

THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE,

THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN AMERICA.

1756-1872.

* *219207

By FRANK W. MILLER,
Late one of its Editors and Publishers.

Reprinted, with additions, from the New-England Historical and Genealogical Register for April, 1872.

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DAVID CLAPP & SON, PRINTERS.

THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE,

THE OLDEST NEWSPAPER IN AMERICA.

Portsmouth, the only port worthy the name on New-Hampshire's eighteen miles of sea-coast, was originally planted as a mercantile settlement, and not a religious colony. And this peculiarity of her origin has impressed itself on every phase and period of her history. Accordingly we find her, and the province of New-Hampshire, of which she was at once the head and the largest member, getting along without a press from 1623 until 1756; and when at length the press did come, it was first used to print an almanac and newspaper; and indeed this first press was never used in printing many books.

The history of printing in Portsmouth is thus mainly the record of newspapers and editors; although considerable book work was done at one time, about the close of the last century, including a heavy edition of Rollin's Ancient History, by Treadwell & Brother, in 8 vols. Charles Tappan, Charles Peirce, Gray & Childs, T. H. Miller and C. W. Brewster also issued several works, at a later date; and Mr. Miller also printed music, and his were the only specimens ever issued in the state, so far as I can ascertain, except the publications of Henry Ranlet (and possibly others) at Exeter, which were considerable.

Daniel Fowle, the first printer in New-Hampshire, who established the New-Hampshire Gazette in Portsmouth, Oct. 7, 1756, was a native of Massachusetts, and his record shows him to have been a fair printer, and

able editor; successful in business; a true patriot, and good man. He commenced business in Boston, in 1740, and in 1750 published the Independent Advertiser, in connection with Gamaliel Rogers. Fowle afterward opened a bookstore and printing office in Boston; and in 1754 was arrested by order of the Massachusetts house of representatives, on suspicion of having printed a pamphlet entitled "*The monster of monsters;* by Tom Thumb Esq.," which contained severe animadversions on some of the members. Fowle denied the printing, but acknowledged the sale of the pamphlets. After the rudest and most insolent treatment, he was taken to the common jail, and confined in the same cell with a notorious thief, and next that of a murderer awaiting execution. After three days he was set at liberty, but refused to go; he had been confined, uncondemned by the law, and demanded that the authority which had imprisoned, should release him. But after staying with the jailor three days longer, and learning that his wife was seriously ill from anxiety on his account, he returned home. He afterward published an account of these arbitrary proceedings in a pamphlet entitled "The total eclipse of liberty."

In vain endeavoring to obtain satisfaction or indemnity for his illegal detention, and disgusted with the provincial government of Massachusetts, he determined to leave Boston; and sought the freer soil of New-Hampshire. Accepting the invitation of several "respectable" gentlemen of Portsmouth, he removed to this town; and early in October, 1756, issued here the first number of the Gazette, on a sheet which, laid open, measures seventeen inches by ten — an exact *fac-simile*[1] of which is furnished in each copy of this number of the REGISTER. The Gazette was published in its original form but about three months, and at the beginning of the next year, 1757, the matter was made up in two pages of three columns each, running the long way of paper the same size as at first. A double (or folded) sheet, of four pages, like these two described, was issued for the first time on July 29th, 1757, and thereafter whenever occasion demanded, or the supply of paper, or advertisements or other matter warranted. The single leaf or

[1] We are indebted to the New-Hampshire Historical Society for the use of the plates from which the *fac-simile* is printed.

Thurſday, October 7. 1756. THE Numb. 1.

New Hampſhire GAZETTE,

With the Freſheſt Advices Foreign and Domeſtick.

The Printer to the PUBLIC.

UPON the Encouragement given by a Number of Subſcribers agreable to printed Propoſals, I now publiſh the firſt Weekly Gazette, for the Province of New-Hampshire; depending upon the Favour of all Gentlemen who are Friends to *Learning*, *Religion* and *Liberty* to countenance my Undertaking, as this is the beginning of Printing in this Province, ſo that I may go on cheerfully, and continue this Paper in a uſeful and entertaining Manner.

Fondneſs of News may be carried to an extreme; but every Lover of Mankind muſt feel a ſtrong Deſire to know what paſſes in the World, as well as within his own private Sphere; and particularly to be acquainted with the Affairs of his own Nation and Country—Eſpecially at ſuch a Time as this, when the *Britiſh* Nation is engaged in a juſt and neceſſary War with a powerful Enemy, the *French*, a War in which theſe *American* Colonies are moſt nearly intereſted, the Event of which muſt be of the utmoſt Importance both to us and all the *Britiſh* Dominions, every true Engliſhman muſt be anxious to know from Time to Time the State of our Affairs, at Home and in the Colonies.

I ſhall therefore take Pains to furniſh my Readers with the moſt material News which can be collected from every Part of the World, particularly from *Great-Britain*, and its Dependencies: And great Care will be taken that no Facts of Importance ſhall be published but ſuch as are well atteſted, and theſe ſhall be as particular as may be neceſſary.

But beſides the common News, whenever there ſhall be Room, and as there may be Occaſion, this Paper will contain Extracts from the beſt Authors on Points of the moſt uſeful Knowledge, moral, religious or political Eſſays, and other ſuch Speculations as may have a Tendency to improve the Mind, afford any Help to Trade, Manufactures, Huſbandry, and other uſeful Arts, and promote the public Welfare in any Reſpect.

As the Preſs always claims Liberty in free Countries, it is preſumed that none will be offended if this Paper diſcovers that Spirit of Freedom which ſo remarkably prevails in the *Engliſh* Nation: But as Liberty ought not to be abus'd, no Encouragement will be given by the Publiſher to any Thing which is apparently deſign'd to foment Diviſions in Church or State, nor to any Thing profane, obſcene, or tending to encourage Immorality, nor to ſuch Writings as are produced by private Pique, and fill'd with perſonal Reflections and inſolent ſcurrilous Language. It is a great Abuſe of good Senſe as well as good Manners to employ thoſe Means which may be ſerviceable to the beſt Purpoſes, in the ſervice of Vice or any thing Indecent, or which may give juſt Occaſion of Offence to any perſons of true Taſte and Judgment. And therefore proper Caution will be always us'd to avoid all reaſonable Grounds of Complaint on that Score.

The

The Publiſher will eſteem it a great Favour to be well ſupplied by Correſpondents of Genius and generous Sentiments with ſuch Speculations or Eſſays as may be pleaſing and inſtructive to the Public, agreeable to the Deſign of this Paper, and acknowledge himſelf obliged to any Gentleman who will take the Pains to communicate to him any good Intelligence, provided they be ſent free from Charge.

The following Articles are the moſt material by yeſterday's Mail.

ANTIGUA, Auguſt 28.

ON Thurſday laſt arrived here his Majeſty's Ships the Edinburg, of 74 Guns, Capt. Langdon, on board of which it is ſaid Admiral Frankland will hoiſt his Flag, and the Auguſta of 60, Capt. Wickham, with Merchantmen under Convoy: In the Auguſta, came together with his Lady and Siſter, James Ross, Esq; Col. of his Majeſty's 38th Regiment of Foot.

The Auguſta in her Paſſage ſpoke with a Veſſel from Gibraltar, the Maſter of which ſaid that Sir Edward Hawke arrived at Gibraltar the 23d of June, and ſail'd from thence the next Day for Minorca.

Aug. 31. Yeſterday arrived here the Snow Sally, Capt. Barton, in 27 Days from Gibraltar, from whom we received the following Articles of Intelligence — The Day after the Engagement between the two Fleets the French Fleet appeared off Minorca, when a Report prevailed that they had ſunk and deſtroyed the Engliſh Fleet; and a Flag of Truce was ſent into the Garriſon, deſiring they would ſurrender, for if not, the Enemy did not doubt having it in a few Days, and then no Quarters would be granted. The gallant General Blakeney diſmiss'd the Flag of Truce, and gave them an Anſwer by Cannon Ball and Bomb Shells: The Execution that Day was upwards of 1000 Men kill'd, when a Parley was beat for leave to bury the dead. Soon after the French upon a Breach put in Execution a bold Attempt, when a Mine was ſprung by our General, which blew up a Battalion, and occaſioned their beating a ſecond Parley to bury the dead. This Mine being a principal one in the Defence of the Garriſon, General Blakeney now took that Opportunity to ſend a Flag of Truce, with a Propoſal of Capitulation; every Thing was granted, and the French march'd in the next Day, being the 29th of June: During our Forces ſtay, they did Duty as the French; a ſtrong Friendſhip ſubſiſted, and the Engliſh march'd out with all the Honours of War, and were ſent to Gibraltar at the French King's Expence.

The Duke de Richelieu told General Blakeney, that if Byng had landed his Forces, as he might have done, he had Orders from his Maſter to nail up the Cannon, and embark immediately for France. We loſt 170 Officers and Men; the French between 4 & 5000.

Admirals Hawke and Saunders being ſent to take the Command, Byng and Weſt were ordered home, as are the Generals Fowke and Stuart. Hawke ſail'd from Gibraltar the 9th of July, with 19 Sail of Men of War and Troops on board, to reinforce the Garriſon of St. Philips, not knowing that it was ſurrendred. Our Forces from Minorca, arrived at Gibralter 5 days before Capt. Barton ſail'd, which makes the Garriſon 10000 ſtrong. By ſome Accounts, there is Intelligence of ſeveral Men of War with Soldiers on board, for the Mediterranean; and General Blakeney doubts not but a few Months will reinſtate him in St. Philips.

The French firſt landed with 15000, ſome Accounts ſay 17000, and were reinforced with 4000; whereas we had not 3000 at firſt, and no Reinforcement.

HALLIFAX, September 11.

On Saturday laſt arrived here a French Prize Schooner ſent in by the Fleet taken off Louiſbourg, her Cargo conſiſts of Ship Timber, ſome Bread and Fiſh, &c. She is to be fitted out as a Privateer, to carry 10 Carriage and 20 Swivel Guns, is to be mann'd out of the Fleet, and employ'd by them as a Tender.

Sept. 18. Laſt Sunday arrived the Privateer Shallop commanded by Capt. Piggot, who ſail'd from hence about a Fortnight before, having taken ſix Prizes, all ſmall French Schooners, one of which ſhe brought in with her, another has ſince arrived, and the reſt are daily expected.

The ſame Day an Engliſh fiſhing Schooner arrived here, which had been re-taken from a French Privateer, by Capt. Mc'Nemara, in the Privateer Schooner Wasp, belonging to this Place: Capt. Mc'Nemara tarried no longer with her than to ſhift Hands, and then ſtood away after the French Privateer.

Several Veſſels have arrived here within this Week paſt, the Maſters of which affirm that they have been chaſed by a Schooner which they took to be a French Privateer, and ſome of them even within Sight of this Harbour.

Thurday arrived a French Prize Sloop, taken by the Fogeaux; her Cargoe, conſiſts of Furrs, Fiſh, &c.

Yeſterday Morning arriv'd here his Majeſty's Sloop, Jamaica from the Fleet off Louiſburg, which ſhe left cruzing on their Station, *all well:* We hear ſhe left the Fleet in Company with a Prize Snow, a Veſſel of Force, taken by the Fogeaux: She alſo in her Paſſage hither took a French Brigantine, which with the Snow, ſhe parted with two Days ago in a Fog; both which are hourly expected in here. The Jamaica alſo, off this Harbour, reliev'd a Schooner from Boſton, Capt. Storer, bound to this Port, who was then in Chaſe by a French Privateer, who upon eſpying the Jamaica, ſtood off and gave over the Chaſe. She is a large Schooner, her upper Works and Maſts painted with Spaniſh Brown, carries eight Guns, beſides Swivels, and is a good Sailer.

And Yeſterday about 10 o'Clock, the Jamaica ſet ſail again in queſt of the ſaid French Privateer.

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 23.

Saturday laſt arrived an Express from Col. Armſtrong, of Cumberland County, with Advice, that he marched from Fort Shirley on the 30th paſt, with about 300 of our Provincial Forces, on an Expedition againſt Kittanning, a Town of our Indian Enemies on the Ohio, about 25 Miles above Fort Duquesne. On the 3d Inſt. he joined the advanced Party at the Beaver Dams, near Franks-Town; and on the 7th in the Evening, being within ſix Miles of Kittanning, the Scout diſcovered a Fire in the Road, and reported that there were but 3, or at moſt 4 Indians at it. It was not thought proper to

attempt surprizing those Indians at that Time, leſt if one should escape the Town might be alarmed; ſo Lieut. Hogg with twelve Men, was left to watch them, with Orders not to fall upon them till Day break; and our Forces turned out of the Path, and passed by without diſturbing them. About three in the Morning, having been guided by the Whooping of the Indian Warriors at a Dance in the Town, they reached the River, 100 Perches below the Body of the Town, near a Corn Field, in which a Number of the Enemy lodged, as it was a warm Night. As ſoon as Day appear'd, and the Town could be ſeen, the Attack began in the Cornfield, through which our People charged, killing ſeveral of the Enemy, and entered the Town. Capt. Jacobs, Chief of the Indians, gave the War Whoop, and defended his Houſe bravely thro' Loop-holes in the Logs. And the Indians generally refuſing Quarters, which were offered them, declaring they were Men, and would not be Priſoners. Col. Armſtrong (who received a Wound in his Shoulder) ordered their Houſes to be ſet on Fire, which was immediately done. When the Indians were told they would be burnt if they did not ſurrender, one of them reply'd, he did not care, as he could kill four or five before he died; and as the Heat approached, ſome began to ſing, ſome however burſt out of the Houſes, and attempted to reach the River, but were ſhot down.... Capt. Jacobs in getting out of a Window was ſhot, and ſcalped, as alſo his Squaw, and a Lad called the King's Son. The Indians had a Number of ſpare Arms in their Houſes, loaded, which went off as the Fire came to them; and Quantities of Gun powder which had been ſtored in every Houſe, blew up from time to time, throwing ſome of their Bodies a great Height into the Air.... A Body of the Enemy on the oppoſite Side of the River, fired on our People, and being ſeen to croſs the River at a Diſtance, as if to ſurround our Men, they collected ſome Indian Horſes that were near the Town, to carry off the wounded, and then retreated without going back to the Cornfield to pick up the Scalps of thoſe killed there in the Beginning of the Action. Several of the Enemy were alſo killed in the River as they were attempting to eſcape: And it was computed that in all between thirty and forty were deſtroyed though we brought off but 12 Scalps.... Eleven Engliſh Priſoners were releaſed and brought away, who informed the Col. that beſides the Powder (of which the Indians boaſted they had enough for ten Years War with the Engliſh) there was a great Quantity of Goods burnt, which the French had made them a Preſent of but ten Days before. The Priſoners alſo informed, that that very Day, two Battoes of French Men, with a large Party of Delaware and French Indians were to join Capt. Jacobs, to march and take Fort Shirley; and that 25 Warriors had ſet out before them the preceding Evening, which proved to be the Party that had kindled the Fire Night before; for our People returning, found Lieut. Hogg wounded in 3 Places, and learnt he had in the Morning attacked the ſuppos'd Party of 3 or 4 at the Fire, according to Order, but found them too numerous for him. He kill'd 3 of them however at the firſt Fire, and fought them an Hour, when having loſt 3 of his beſt Men, the reſt, as he lay wounded, abandoned him and fled, the Enemy purſuing them. Lieut. Hogg died ſoon after of his Wounds.... Capt. Mercer being wounded in the Action, was carried off by his Enſign and 11 Men, who left the main Body in their Return to take another Road, and were not come in when the Expreſs came away. He had 4 of the recovered Priſoners with him, and ſome of the Scalps.

On the whole, it is allowed to be the greateſt Blow the Enemy have received ſince the War began, and if well followed may ſoon make them weary of continuing it. The Conduct of Col. Armſtrong in marching ſo large a Body thro' the Enemy's Country, without being diſcovered, is deſervedly admired and applauded, as well as the Bravery of both Officers and Men in the Action. And we hope their Example may have all the good Effects that are naturally to be expected from it.

In the whole we had 17 killed, 13 wounded, and 19 miſſing.

Since receiving the above Return from Fort Littleton, we are informed Capt. Mercer, and 23 Perſons, are returned ſafe, which makes up the Number of the Miſſing, and the four releaſed Priſoners.

Capt. Bryce, arrived in Maryland from Barbados, adviſes, that on the 9th ult. between the latitudes 21 and 22, he was chaſed by 10 Sail of Men of War ſix Hours (whether French or Engliſh he could not tell) but he outſailing them, they ſtood to the Northward.

NEW-YORK, September 27.

Captain Dwight came up laſt Wedneſday Evening, in the Prize Ship Chavalmarin, Mons. Despaſarius, late Maſter, taken the 31ſt of Auguſt, by the Privateer Brig Prince George, Capt. King, of this Port, as mentioned in our laſt.

Saturday Evening laſt Captain Aſhfield arrived here in a Sloop (Alexander Hope late Maſter) from Africa, but laſt from Santa Croix, in 11 Days, and acquaints us, That about two Months ago, 100 Leagues from the Coaſt, 6 or 7 Slaves that were upon Deck, watch'd an Opportunity when he and ſome more of the Crew were in the Hold,ruſh'd into the Cabbin, knocked Capt. Hope's Brains out, wounded Mr. Charles Duncan the ſecond Mate in ſeveral Places, ſecured all the Arms, and kept Poſſeſſion of the Cabbin for four Hours. Charles Duncan with Difficulty got out of the Cabbin, and with the Aſſiſtance of Mr. Aſhfield and the Cooper got the Door ſhut upon the Negroes; they then diſcharged all the Muſkets and Blunderbuſſes at the Crew, thro' the Door, but hurt none of them. The Negroes having diſcharged all their Pieces, Mr. Aſhfield and the Cooper ruſh'd into the Cabbin upon them, diſarm'd the Slaves, and recovered the Veſſel. The Ringleader of the Slaves jump'd over board and was drown'd. Mr. Aſhfield received ſeveral Wounds as did the Cooper, but are both pretty well.

We expect in about 6 Weeks to have 25 Privateers out from this Port.

The ſame Day, Captain James White, of the Ship Prince-Galley, arrived here from Waterford, in Ireland, with Proviſions for his Majeſty's Forces in this Province.

Yeſterday Morning Capt. Pell in the Privateer Sloop Mary, of this Port, returned here from a Cruize of 8 Weeks, from whom we have the following Particulars, viz. In Lat. 33, 56, Lon. 61, 40, Capt. Pell ſpoke with Capt. Bickers, in the Bradſtreet Privateer, of this Port. Auguſt 29, he ſpoke with a Sloop from Antigua for Newfoundland, who informed him, that two Days before he ſpoke with Capt. Grantham, in the Privateer Sloop Hardy, of this Port alſo, all well on board, but had met with nothing. Auguſt 30, at Day break, Capt. Pell found himſelf in the midſt of ſeven French Veſſels, one of which he immediately took, man'd and brought off, and after having her in Poſſeſſion four Hours, was (firſt taking out his People) obliged to quit her, being chaſed by two French Men of War, one of 74 Guns, and the other of 64, their Convoy: A Frigate of 36 Guns, was then in Chace of a Sloop, which Capt. Pell imagined was Capt. Grantham. Sept. 2d, Early in the Morning, Capt. Pell fell in with the ſame Fleet; The French Commodore immediately gave

Chace, fired several Shot at him, and with Difficulty he escaped being taken. Sept. 5. Captain Pell fell in with five Sail of French Merchantmen, who all hoiſted English Colours: He immediately engaged two of them within Piſtol Shot, one a Ship of 12 Guns and 40 Men, the other a Snow of 10 Guns and 35 Men: The Ship endeavoured to run Capt. Pell down, but he prevented her, by giving her such a Broadside, as made her glad to sheer off: He then run along Side of the Snow, and gave her another Broadside, when she ſtruck her Colours; but the Privateer having fresh Way, she hoiſted her Colours again, and joined the Reſt of the of the Fleet. The same Afternoon Capt. Pell fell on another Ship of 14 Guns and 45 Men, and after exchanging two Broadsides, the Sea running high, and the reſt of the Ships coming down upon him, was obliged to quit her.

The remainder of this muſt be deferr'd to another Opportunity.

New York, Sept. 27. Thursday laſt, a Frenchman supposed to be a Spy, was brought here from Albany, where he was secured by Order of the Earl of London, and is committed to our Goal.

The same Morning Capt. Jauncey arrived here in 23 Days, from Jamaica. He was ten Days in the Windward Passage, without seeing a Vessel of any Nation whatever. There are now on the Jamaica Station, 2 Ships of 60 Guns, 1 of 50, 1 of 40, and 2 of 20 Guns, and 3 others of 70 and 80 Guns each, daily expected there.

Camp at Lake George, Sept. 20, 1756.

"Yeſterday one of our Scouts, conſiſting of 48 Men, commanded by Capt. *Hodges*, were ambush'd and fired upon by a larger Party of Indians (about 12 Miles off, on the Weſt Side of the Lake) our Men fought them about half an Hour, but several of them being kill'd by the firſt Fire of the Enemy, who with superiour Numbers had the Advantage of the Ground, and had almoſt surrounded them, our Party were forced to give way and run off, and were closely pursued by the Indians: Only 5 of the Party are yet returned alive. Immediately upon the News, a fresh Party was sent down to their Relief, in one of the Sloops, with two Whale Boats: In the Evening one of the Boats returned, and brought the Bodies of the Captain and 9 others that were found dead on the Place of Action, scalped and mangled in a very cruel inhuman Manner, and 3 of their Heads cut off: We fear moſt of the others are fallen into the Enemy's Hands. This Day two of our Men being out in a Swamp at a small Diſtance from the Camp, without their Arms, were fired upon by an Indian, but not wounded, on which they ran away and were pursued by the Indian, who overtook one of them, a young Lad, and ſtabb'd and scalped him before we could give him any Aſſiſtance.

BOSTON, October 4.

Besides the Articles mentioned under *Halifax*, we are since informed from thence, that Capt. *Spry* had taken a *French* Sloop from *Canada*, laden with Furs, Fish, *&c*, also a Snow of Force and a Brigantine from the same Place. 'Tis said Capt. *Spry* had wrote to Governor *Lawrence*, that the Maſter of the Snow told him, that the Garrison of *Oſwego*, 15,00 in Number, arrived at *Canada* while he was there, and that he was informed the *French* did not lose a Man in the Reduction of that Place....That several Vessels had been chased off *Halifax*, by a large *French* Privateer Schooner, her upper Works and Maſts painted with *Spaniſh* Brown, and that the *Jamaica* Sloop of War was gone out in queſt of her. It is also reported, that Capt. *Rous* had taken a *French* Privateer Brigantine of 14 Guns and 150 Men.

We have a long confused and uncertain Account of the taking of *Oſwego* Fort, given and signed by one *John Gael*, who belonged to one of the Sloops on Lake *Ontario*, and who made his Escape from the Enemy with 3 others, the Evening after the Surrender of the Fort. To this Account is annexed the Names of the Officers belonging to the 3 Regiments of which the Garrison conſiſted; but as they were all made Prisoners, and carried to *Canada*, and as every one who had Friends or Relations among them now knows their Fate, think it needless to insert their Names here.

Monday laſt, his Majeſty's Ship *Mermaid* (on board of which is his Excellency Governor SHIRLEY) sail'd from this Port for *England*.

Tuesday laſt, being Training-Day at *Caſtle William*, in firing one of the 42 Pound Cannon, it split to pieces, by which Mr. —— *Seaver*, a Quarter-Gunner, was kill'd on the Spot, one had his Leg so terribly shattered that it has since been cut off; another was much wounded in his Head and Side, and several others received some Hurt, but 'tis hoped they will all do well.

PORTSMOUTH, Sept. 7.

By an Express that arriv'd here yeſterday from Albany, we have Advice, That the French are making some Advances towards our Camp at Lake George, and that General Winslow was apprensive they had some Thoughts of paying him a Visit, and that his Lordship the Earl of Loudon had demanded of the several Governors in New England a Reinforcement.

PORT of PISCATAWAY.

Entred in, *Schooner Rye, Richard Foſs from Chignecto.*
Sloop Neptune, Luke Mills, and Ship Salisbury, Samuel Appleton from Antigua.
Brig Britannia, William Gowen from Rhode Island.
Brig Three Brothers, Thomas Daricot from Biddeford.

Entred Out, *Brig Sally, Thomas Palmer to Weſt-Indies.*
Schooner Elizabeth, Mark Furnald to Fyall.
Snow Minerva, Joseph Hixſon to Antigua.
Ship Friends Adventure, John Briard to Weſt-Indies.
Ship Elizabeth, Nathanael Adams to Weſt-Indies.

Cleared Out, *Schooner Fortune, Richard Yeaton to Rhode Island.*
Schooner Charming Molly, Henry Carter to Rhode Island.
Sloop Suſannah, Howard Henderson to Rhode Island.
Schooner Hound, Robert Oram to Fyall.
Brig Dolphin, Samuel Froſt to Weſt-Indies.
Sloop Elizabeth, David Obrian to Liverpool.

To be ſold by the Printer hereof,

A Variety of bound BOOKS *and* PAMPHLETS, *among which are the following, viz.*

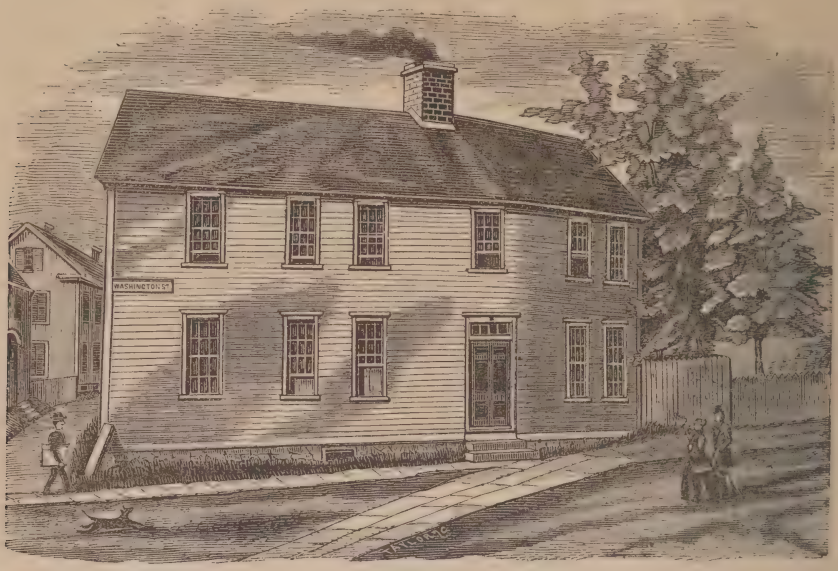
Douglaſs's Summary, *Hiſtorical* and *Political of America in* 2 *Vol. American Magazines in* 3 *Vol. Barnard's Myſtery of the Gospel. Life of Jenny Cameron. Sure Guide to Heaven. Watts's* 44 *Sermons, Lyric Poems, &c.*

PORTSMOUTH, in NEW-HAMPSHIRE:
Printed by *Daniel Fowle*, where this Paper may be had at *One Dollar* per Annum, or an Equivalent in Bills of Credit, computing a Dollar this Year at *Four Pounds* Old Tenor.

sheet was continued much of the time, into the present century, and the usual size of the page was not again materially changed until 1797; but the subscribers never could have known just what sort of a paper to expect, for the small four-page sheet was resumed repeatedly,—for instance, in February and March, 1758, and from March to August, 1763 (except for one issue in May, which was both large and double), and there were ten small numbers in June, 1764; and all these changes were made without the least notice, explanation or allusion to them by the editor. Neither was the removal of the office referred to editorially or otherwise, nor even all the changes in editors or proprietors,—in fact, local matters were almost entirely ignored in those days, everybody probably being expected to know as much about these as the printers. The news from afar was what was desired. The price of $1 per year was not changed until 1797. The Gazette, now in its one hundred and sixteenth volume, is still published at Portsmouth, being now issued in quarto form, on a sheet 29 × 42 inches. The present office is on the same street, and not many rods above the original location, but there have been numerous other sites occupied in the mean time.

It will be seen that no place of issue is stated in the publisher's imprint or elsewhere; but a daughter of the late John Melcher, Esq. (Fowle's successor and heir), still living, states positively that the singular and quaint old wooden building, of which we present an exact picture herewith (from a photograph by Davis Brothers, of Portsmouth), was Fowle's original office, and so the site of the first printing in New-Hampshire. It is located on the corner of Pleasant, Washington and Howard streets, and opposite the beautiful and famous old Wentworth mansion; in the near vicinity of the original meeting-house, and in what was then the business centre as well as the "court end" of the town. The office (that is the material and the business,—not the building) was after a few years removed by Fowle to Fore or Paved street, now Market; but had it been retained in the first location, it would have escaped the fires which have several times threatened it in various others, but which have never devastated the south end of the town. The first statement of the location

of the office, is made when Daniel and Robert Fowle are the publishers, June 12th, 1767, "near State House, in Street leading to Ferry" — now Market street; and this was doubtless the date of the first removal.



The first Printing Office in New-Hampshire, still standing in Portsmouth.

Fowle's opening address is pronounced by Rev. Dr. Peabody to be a masterpiece of its kind; and no one can inspect the volumes of the paper under his management, without conceiving a most favorable idea of his ability and discretion, integrity and honor, public spirit and patriotism. He continued in business in Portsmouth for about thirty years, until 1784, for a portion of the time having a less worthy nephew connected with him; but for the most part assisted chiefly by his negro slave, Primus, an excellent pressman, although he did not know a letter, and who lived to the age of 90. Dr. Peabody also remarks "that the N. H. Gazette is believed to be the only newspaper in this country which has had a continuous existence for a century, without a change of name." But this was said in 1856, at the centennial celebration of the Gazette; and since

that time, at least two others have completed their hundred years, The North American in Philadelphia, and The Newport Mercury in Rhode Island.

Pictorial illustrations were perhaps as popular then as now, but engravings were scarce, and engravers scarcer. Fowle had brought with him, from his Boston printing office, a set of wood-cuts, probably of Æsop's fables; and with that of the fox and the crow, as will be seen, the head of the Gazette was at first adorned. Whether the public was the crow, and Fowle the fox, we cannot say, nor how the emblem or device was to be taken; but this cut was soon broken, and was replaced by that of Jupiter and the peacock. Some time afterward the royal arms took their place in the head, and kept it until displaced by the American revolution.

Mr. Fowle did little else than print his paper, the province laws, and a few pamphlets. The governor appointed him a justice of the peace soon after his arrival. He was a correct and industrious printer, and an agreeable man, and succeeded in accumulating a considerable property. He published the Gazette, alone or with a partner, till 1785; when he transferred it to John Melcher and George Jerry Osborn, two of his apprentices. Mr. Fowle died in 1787, aged about seventy years, leaving most or all his estate to John Melcher, according to his agreement when young Melcher went to live with and work for him. Melcher died in 1850, aged nearly ninety years, and his highly respectable descendants are still enjoying the competency thus gained from Fowle, and increased by himself.

The exact chronology of the Gazette is as follows: Daniel Fowle printed it from 1756 to 1764, when Robert Fowle became associated with him. They continued till 1773, when Robert went to Exeter and started the first paper there. In 1776, Benjamin Dearborn became publisher; but two years after, Mr. Fowle again resumed the publication, and continued it to 1785, when Melcher & Osborn took it. A part of the old wooden building, then standing on what is now Market street, which was occupied as a printing office by Fowle and his successors, is now a dwelling on Russell street.

Mr. Osborn soon left the firm, but Melcher continued the business of printer and bookseller till 1802, when he sold out to Nathaniel S. & Washington Peirce, who changed the politics of the Gazette from federal to republican.

Melcher was the first state-printer[1] of New-Hampshire, and his several successors filled that office up to 1814. He imported a fount of pica type upon which to print the laws of the state, and it was in regular use for more than sixty years. The writer now has in his possession, the original press used in printing the Gazette, also a large earthen inkstand, a settee, and several founts of type, which descended from Fowle to Melcher, and were bestowed by his family on the writer's father, the late Rev. Tobias H. Miller, himself a prominent editor in this city for nearly fifty years past, until 1870. Mr. Melcher filled the high office of coroner for many years, was a very exact and accurate printer and business man, and having made a snug property in his trade, lived in the best of health and spirits almost half a century after he retired from it. The writer of this well remembers his nice, prim appearance as a veritable gentleman of the old school, in our streets, during his last years.

N. S. & W. Peirce, in connection with Benjamin Hill and Samuel Gardner, published the Gazette about seven years, and in 1809 sold it to William Weeks, who came from Portland, Me. Up to this time very little editorial matter had appeared in the paper, except a little political writing at certain periods. The scissors (or, rather, penknife) did most of the work, as they often do the best of it now. The "news" and selected matter were all that was expected—and it was of no consequence if the news from Washington was several days, or from Europe several weeks old, instead of hours or minutes, as now. Mr. Weeks held an able pen, and wrote more than his predecessors. He remained editor for more than four years of a stormy period, and at the close of 1813 was succeeded by Beck & Foster. This firm continued until dissolved by the death of David C. Foster in 1823. From that time till 1834, Gideon Beck was the publisher; then Albert Greenleaf was admitted partner, and the next year, 1838, Mr. Beck left the business. Now appear the names of Thomas B. Laighton (afterward well known at the Isles of Shoals), and Abner Greenleaf, Jr., in the imprint, for

[1] On the 28th of June, 1814, Messrs. Beck & Foster announced that, by vote of the legislature, the Gazette was deprived of the publication of non-resident lands; and thereafterward the title of "Printer to the State" is no longer found in the imprint, where it had continued from Melcher in 1787.

a year or less; when Mr. Greenleaf alone conducts the paper up to 1841. Then Joel C. Virgin and Samuel W. Moses published it until 1843; then Mr. Moses for a year. After this, Abner Greenleaf (senior) is named as editor, then A. Greenleaf & Son. This year, 1844, closes without any imprint, and for the next two years there was none, the paper being then owned by prominent democrats, and managed by them and their friends.

In 1847, William P. Hill, a son of Isaac Hill, came from Concord, in this state, and bought the Gazette, and also another opposition sheet which had been started; and uniting the two, enlarged the Gazette, and called it "The N. H. Gazette and Republican Union." He was unsuccessful, and lost several thousand dollars in the publication; and after in vain attempting to establish a daily Gazette in connection therewith, he left the paper in 1850, and was succeeded by Gideon H. Rundlett, of Portsmouth, who ably and faithfully edited and published the paper for its owners, who were leading members of the democratic party.

Edward N. Fuller, from Manchester, relieved Mr. Rundlett after his two years' service, in 1852, and remained in charge of the business until 1858, when, after making another creditable but unsuccessful attempt to establish a daily Gazette, he left the state, and was for several years connected with the Newark Journal in New-Jersey. Mr. Fuller was an able man and skilful journalist, but had a difficult field to work in here. He was succeeded in the management of the Gazette, by Amos S. Alexander, Esq., from Fisherville,—a man of more ability than discretion in the use of his pen; a most social and agreeable gentleman, of Falstaffian personal proportions. This "Alexander the Great" (as he was sometimes called by rival editors) was obliged to vacate his position as custom-house officer and editor, in favor of Mr. Samuel Gray, of Portsmouth, who now bought the office, in February, 1859. Mr. Gray was a good printer, and capable business man, and conducted the paper to the satisfaction of its patrons, until Sept. 14, 1861, when he sold out to Frank W. Miller, who united the Gazette with the Chronicle (a daily and weekly paper established in 1852 by these same men, with others, then partners, as Millers & Gray), in which connection it is still published, the daily being known as "The

Portsmouth Chronicle," and the weekly as "The New-Hampshire Gazette."

In 1856, the firm of Millers & Gray (the third member having been Thomas W. Miller, who deceased in 1855) was dissolved, Frank W. Miller remaining as sole owner and publisher. A few months previous, they had purchased the New-Hampshire Phenix, a temperance paper printed in Concord, and uniting the same with the weekly Rockingham Chronicle put the titles of both at the head; and when the Gazette was joined with the Chronicle, in 1861, the names of all three were kept at the head for several months, the Gazette leading, as usual. This cannibalistic performance of swallowing numerous other papers, has been the experience of many old publications.

Mr. George W. Marston was admitted partner with Mr. Miller, April 13, 1868, under the style of Frank W. Miller & Co.; and Mr. Miller sold his interest to Mr. Washington Freeman, Oct. 13, 1870, since when the business is well conducted by Marston & Freeman.

The Gazette was strongly loyal for many years; so much so, that in 1765 it was feared the editor would not oppose the stamp act vigorously enough, and another paper called the Portsmouth Mercury was started, but after three years it ran out.[1] In 1802, the Gazette was changed to republican, but about Jackson's time espoused the democratic cause, and followed the fortunes of that party until united with the Chronicle. Thenceforth, with T. H. Miller continuously, and three of his sons at different times as editors (with whom Jacob H. Thompson, now of the New-York Times, was for several years a valuable assistant), and later under Mr. Marston's management, the Gazette has been and is a supporter of the republican party.

It must not be supposed that the printers of the Gazette enjoyed a monopoly of the business in Portsmouth during all these years. Far from

[1] But I find by the files, that the number of the Gazette for Oct. 31, 1768, is dressed in the deepest mourning, with very heavy inverted column rules (although still bearing the English royal arms at the head), on account of the stamp act, and is loud in lamentations, and strong in denunciation of the outrage; threatening to suspend publication, rather than submit to it.

it. Nearly or quite thirty other different papers have been started, and for the last eighty years there have been commonly three weeklies issued, and within twenty years two dailies have been established in addition,—the Daily Times in 1868. Of these, up to the time of the very successful Chronicle, in 1852, only one had succeeded with any great degree of permanence,—the Oracle, now Portsmouth Journal.

In 1793, Charles Peirce commenced a semi-weekly called the "United States Oracle of the Day," but in about two years changed it to a weekly, and in 1801 sold it to William Treadwell; and after passing through other hands, the name was altered to "Portsmouth Journal" (which it still retains), by N. A. Haven, Jr., who became editor in 1821, and it was in 1825 sold to Charles W. Brewster and Tobias H. Miller, both recently deceased. In 1835, Mr. Brewster bought out Mr. Miller, and the paper is still published by his son, Louis W. Brewster, for several years his partner, and is one of the most substantial and highly esteemed family journals in the state. As a characteristic, it has the same small, neat heading which it has borne for a large portion of its whole existence of three-quarters of a century.

Mr. Brewster, senior, made one or two efforts, many years ago, to start a small daily, but not immediately receiving what he deemed adequate encouragement, he declined to go on. His two volumes of valuable and interesting local history, known as "Rambles about Portsmouth," and his noble essay entitled "Fifty years in a Printing Office," are, in addition to his weekly Journal, an ample record of a well-spent life. Verily, his works do follow him, and his children rise up and call him blessed.

His old partner, Tobias H. Miller,—printer, editor, publisher, and minister of the gospel,—was for more than half a century prominently connected with the press of his native state; and no doubt, at one time or other, was interested in more different newspapers than any other man who ever lived in New-Hampshire. As an editor, few have shown more ability or been more popular, though he was as outspoken as Fowle; but, unlike Fowle, he cared not to amass wealth. He was a clergyman of good standing, first in the Orthodox Congregational, and afterward in the Universalist denomination; and keeping both pen and voice active almost to the day of his

death, he was a year or two since gathered with our list of worthies, of whom he was proud to be accounted one. His six sons have all had more or less connection with the printing office, four of them being editors of newspapers.[1]

It is curious to look at the ages of the first printers of Portsmouth. Fowle lived to be about 70 years old, working nearly fifty; Primus, his slave, to be 90, working more than fifty; Melcher, Fowle's apprentice, to be 90, working nearly thirty years; Samuel Whidden, Melcher's apprentice, and in part his successor, to be 70, working forty-five; and T. H. Miller, who first worked with Whidden, to be 68, working fifty-five years. Of all these men, probably the first, Daniel Fowle, made more money by the printing business, than has ever been made by any other in this state, even to the present day; although Mr. Melcher, who inherited Fowle's property and increased it in other ways than by printing, doubtless gathered a larger estate than he. Fowle held the office of justice of the peace, a position conferring power and emoluments in those days; Melcher was for years the coroner, a respectable and profitable office; and in later times, even to the present, the publisher or editor of the Gazette has usually been the recipient of some profitable government office, in the customs or postal department. Before the year 1800, eight several and distinct papers competed

[1] It may not be out of place, in speaking of the last editor of the Gazette, to allude to one of the singular coincidences, — that Rev. T. H. Miller, who in his youth was office-mate with Wm. Lloyd Garrison at Newburyport, and whose exertions through life to promote the temperance and anti-slavery reforms were untiring, should be buried on the very day that the fifteenth amendment to the United States constitution was ratified. Mr. Miller was one of the earliest and most earnest anti-slavery men in the State, although never fanatical nor impractical on any subject; and although he was never imprisoned, like Fowle, for his sentiments, yet a public meeting was called and held in Portsmouth, about 1835, to prevent his delivering an anti-slavery address on the 4th of July. And although the adverse movement was not successful, the church where the services were held was surrounded by a noisy mob, windows were broken, the bell-rope was pulled outside the belfry, and the bell rung to disturb the meeting and excite the town. The late Phinehas Nichols, Esq., who was in the pulpit at the time, said to me, years afterward, that he rather expected to be pulled or driven from it, but had fully made up his mind to defend his rights, even in that sacred place. And in later years, the writer saw a hooting mob of several hundred low fellows follow the brave old gentleman (Rev. Mr. M.) through the streets of Portsmouth to a railroad station; he with the mayor and city marshal, escorting and protecting a visiting agent sent by the State Temperance Society to enforce the liquor law, but whose coming Mr. Miller did not procure, recommend or desire.

with the Gazette, at different times; since that time, at least twenty of all sorts have begun and ended. Of the men, besides the Gazette pioneers and their near successors, Charles Peirce, who started the Oracle (now Journal), and the late lamented Charles W. Brewster, also of the Journal, all of whom accumulated a comfortable competency, few if any of their numerous competitors and followers, except the Chronicle publishers, have added much to their substance by their hard labors, though some of them were very able and worthy men. The Oracle and Journal throughout have had able writers. The Gazette, from the time Mr. William Weeks took it, in 1809, has been actively edited, and usually with ability.

It is fitting and proper here to note the fact that the antiquity of the N. H. Gazette has been disputed and denied by some, especially by the Newport Mercury of Rhode Island, which was started two years after the Gazette, by Benjamin Franklin's less worthy brother James. The form, size and entire make-up of the little Mercury (as shown by the *fac simile* issued at the time of *their* centennial celebration, in 1858) clearly evince that it was patterned, as near as might be, after Fowle's Gazette; and the Mercury bases its claims to greater antiquity than the Gazette, on the statement that the Gazette was for a year or more, about 1775, suspended from publication, or else published under a different name. But neither of these statements are true, as the files and all the records of history show. For although there have at various times been several other titles connected with that of New-Hampshire Gazette, this has never been omitted, nor has the paper ever failed of regular and continuous issue. There appears at one time to have been another New-Hampshire Gazette, printed at Exeter, fourteen miles distant from Portsmouth, by one Robert Fowle, whom Dr. Peabody alludes to as an unworthy nephew of the great Daniel; this was issued irregularly for a year or two, first called "A New-Hampshire Gazette," and afterwards "The New-Hampshire Gazette," and its brief existence may have caused the misapprehension as to the veritable Gazette. At any rate, the bound files of the Gazette, which still exist, almost complete if not entirely so, in the Athenæums of Portsmouth and Boston, show that this charge is not correct, and the evidence is good and sufficient of the superior

age of the paper. Rev. Dr. Peabody, in his address, sustains this view; and the late Rev. T. H. Miller, who had thoroughly studied the subject, also insisted on it. Thomas, in his *History of Printing*, more than half a century since, said "The New-Hampshire Gazette is the oldest paper in New-England,"—and it is very certain that it has not grown any younger, nor any of its cotemporaries relatively any older since. The files show that the name of N. H. Gazette and Historical Chronicle was, on May 25, 1776, changed to Freeman's Journal or N. H. Gazette; and about one year afterwards was again changed to N. H. Gazette, or State Journal and General Advertiser. But the original title of New-Hampshire Gazette, which Fowle gave it, has always been sustained at the head of the paper, and this is beyond question the oldest paper, not only in New-England, but in the United States. And there is only one other paper, so far as I can discover, that at any time, within many years back, could have disputed successfully the claims of the N. H. Gazette to priority in the Union. We allude to the Virginia Gazette, which was established at Williamsburg in 1736, twenty years before Fowle's, and was the third paper started in the country. The publishers most of the time during the last twenty years have been two brothers of the name of Lively, to whose courtesy I am indebted for some information concerning the paper, and for copies of the last issues, as late as 1869, which show them to be able journalists. Mr. Lively states that he has valuable bound files of the paper, sufficient to fill a horse-cart; but that its publication has been suspended and resumed several times during its long career,—if, indeed, such an interrupted and broken series of existences can be termed and counted as one and the same life. In one case, at least, Messrs. Lively abandoned the old historic name, but resumed it again after a few months. In 1862, this Virginia Gazette was necessarily discontinued for a while, by reason of the U. S. forces occupying the town of Williamsburg, and a sheet was issued from the office by some of the printer "boys in blue." At the close of the war, the former publishers resumed the old Gazette, but did not continue to print it long, and it is now undergoing one of its silent or hibernating periods. But as its last able and gentlemanly editor informs me that there is now a good opening for a

paper in Williamsburg, let us hope that this, one of the earliest of all our many "Gazettes," may soon be resuscitated to new and long-continued life.

As for the New-Hampshire Gazette, the worthy subject of this brief and imperfect sketch, which yet has grown far beyond the limits I intended,—this is still alive indeed, and is now published by Messrs. Marston & Freeman, in quarto form of eight pages of six columns each; and is one of the largest, best and most flourishing papers in the state. It was issued in its present shape for the first time, by the writer of this article, Nov. 16, 1867. The long-continued support of this old newspaper by the people of Portsmouth and vicinity, would seem to be another evidence of their noted steadfastness, enterprise and thrift in the olden times.

Rev. Dr. Peabody also states in his address, that "this town can claim the distinction of having issued the first religious newspaper in the country, and I am inclined to think in the world." This was the "Herald of Gospel Liberty," which was started by Rev. Elias Smith, the very able founder here of the Christian Baptist or Christian sect; whose son, Rev. Matthew Hale Smith, has for years been the spicy New-York correspondent of the Boston Journal. The paper, after several changes of name and location, is still published under its original title, in Dayton, Ohio. I am well aware that some persons attempt to disprove this claim of priority likewise. Dr. Peabody further says, "I am also led to believe that the earliest religious magazine published in America was 'The Piscataqua Evangelical Magazine,' issued in Portsmouth four or five years, beginning in 1805."

A very interesting celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the introduction of printing into New-Hampshire,—really the celebration of the establishing of the Gazette,—was held in Portsmouth, October 6, 1856. The movement was originated by the New-Hampshire State Historical Society, and was largely indebted for its success to the intelligent and untiring efforts of Edward N. Fuller, Esq., then publisher of the Gazette, and his brother, now Frank Fuller, Esq., of Utah. Mr. E. N. Fuller published at the time, a pamphlet of sixty pages, containing a full account of the proceedings on the occasion,—the street procession and decorations, and the indoor festivities,—the oration, poem, &c. in the Temple, originally the

church built for Elder Elias Smith; the dinner in the old historic Jefferson Hall, with the after-feast of speeches, sentiments, &c. The oration of Rev. Dr. A. P. Peabody, then pastor of the Unitarian Church in Portsmouth, and editor of the North American Review, although written at very short notice, was of course an able and eloquent production, and no less a glowing tribute to the "art preservative," than a valuable compilation of and contribution to the general and local history of the craft, the devotees of which perhaps have proved themselves generally less crafty than most other guilds. Benjamin P. Shillaber, Esq., well known as Mrs. Partington, delivered the poem on the occasion; and Albert Laighton, who has been styled the poet of New-Hampshire, and Thomas B. Aldrich, wrote odes which were sung by a select choir—,all the three poets being natives of Portsmouth.

The famous battalion of Amoskeag Veterans, from Manchester, N. H., under command of the late Col. Chandler E. Potter, the well-known historian, performed escort duty for the imposing street procession, which embraced the fire department and military and civic organizations of the city, and a small mechanical department. The great attraction was the old wood and stone printing-press (often called Ramage, but I think older[1] than that pattern), which had been owned and worked by Franklin J. Draper, of Boston, and Daniel Fowle and John Melcher, of Portsmouth, and upon which the New-Hampshire Gazette was first printed. This historic press was set up in a hayrack in the most *outre* style, and was operated as the procession moved along the streets, with the old inkballs and all; and *fac-similes* of the first number of the Gazette were distributed to the eager

[1] Mr. George W. Bazin, of Boston, who was an apprentice in the Portsmouth Oracle office about 1814 (and while there gave the late T. H. Miller his first lessons in type-setting), and who now, at the age of 78 years, is making full weekly bills as compositor at the office of Rand & Avery, thinks this is incorrect; but I am sure the late Mr. Miller held the view stated above. Mr. Bazin is correct in stating that an old press was brought from Portsmouth to Boston to join in the great Franklin statue celebration, and that this bore the name of A. Ramage; but Mr. Isaac Frye, also an old Portsmouth and Boston printer, remembers two presses in the Melcher office, and thinks the oldest was not a Ramage. It has long been claimed that "Franklin worked on this press," as it is of scores of others; and possibly he did pull a sheet or two, when travelling as Postmaster-General, and calling at printing offices—to please the boys.

populace, just a century from the appearance of the original from the same press.

Of the numerous and significant decorations of buildings, we can only refer to two. At the corner of Howard and Washington streets, and very near Pleasant, still stands the queer shaped old wooden building which was used by Fowle for the first printing office in the state, and of which we present an engraving with this article. This structure was decorated agreeably to the suggestions of the writer hereof, with a large painting of the Draper printing press, behind which was seen the rising sun, and over all, the words, "Let there be light!" Underneath all, the inscription, "Success to the craft which puts down kingcraft and priestcraft." Flags were suspended across the street at this point, and the bands as they passed saluted the sacred spot. At the office where the Gazette was then published, on Daniel street, there was erected a fine national arch, surmounted by an eagle and flags, on the pillars of which appeared thirteen stars, and on the keystone, "Daniel Fowle, 1756:"

> "To him whose memory our art endears,
> We yield the homage of a hundred years."

There was also a colossal bust of Franklin, the wooden figurehead, we think, of the old U. S. ship Franklin, and which is now displayed in the grounds of Portsmouth Navy Yard.

The after-dinner speeches at Jefferson Hall, were especially interesting. Mayor Richard Jenness presided, and Frank Fuller, Esq. was toast-master. Among the sentiments responded to, was one to "Daniel Fowle," by the Rev. Tobias H. Miller, who has recorded nearly all of the scanty knowledge we have of Fowle's history, and that of John Melcher his next successor. Benjamin P. Shillaber also read a humorous poem, and Mr. Charles W. Brewster worked into ingenious rhyme many of the names of the numerous poets of Portsmouth. Father Boylston, of the Amherst Cabinet, and the veteran Father John Prentiss, long of the Keene Sentinel (who is still living at the age of ninety-four years), entertained the company with anecdotes and reminiscences of their times. E. N. Fuller, Esq., spoke for the Gazette, and named many whose able pens

had enriched its columns. The whole celebration was one of the most interesting ever held in the city, and was in every respect worthy of the important event it commemorated. There were present many scholars and literary men from abroad, and the number of newspaper editors and reporters in attendance was probably larger than was ever gathered on any other occasion in the state. In the procession, the car containing the circulating printing office was labelled, "The Press," and a large carriage filled with Boston and New-York editors, was inscribed, "The Quill." Besides the exercises already alluded to, the visiting multitudes were entertained with a rowing regatta on the Piscataqua river, and a grand centennial ball was given at Congress Hall in the evening, which was pronounced the most brilliant affair of the sort ever given in this noted old city. And thus began and ended the first centennial celebration of the art of printing in America. For the expenses, the city council appropriated $500, one half of which only was expended, the balance being made up by subscriptions from public-spirited citizens.